

58. (Amended) A condrapable hydrophobic nonwoven web of continuous fibers, comprising:

(A) a hydrophobic nonwoven web of continuous fibers having an initial condrapability; and

(B) a fiber surface-modifying agent on said web to form therewith a condrapable hydrophobic web, said agent consisting essentially of an amino-modified polydimethylsiloxane;

said condrapable hydrophobic web being characterized by a substantial hydrophobicity, as measured by a strike-through greater than 180 seconds, and by a substantial improvement in condrapability, as measured by a Handle-O-Meter decrease of at least 15% average for MD and CD relative to the initial condrapability.

87. (Amended) A condrapable hydrophobic nonwoven web of continuous fibers, comprising:

(A) a non-hydrophobic nonwoven web of continuous fibers having an initial condrapability; and

(B) a fiber surface-modifying agent on said web to form therewith a condrapable hydrophobic web, said agent consisting essentially of an amino-modified polydimethylsiloxane;

said condrapable hydrophobic web being characterized by a substantial hydrophobicity, as measured by a strike-through greater than 180 seconds, and by a substantial improvement in condrapability, as measured by a Handle-O-Meter decrease of at least 15% average for MD and CD relative to the initial condrapability.

88. (Amended) A condrapable nonwoven web of continuous fibers,
comprising:

(A) a hydrophilic nonwoven web of continuous fibers having an initial
condrapability; and

(B) a fiber surface-modifying agent on said web to form therewith a
condrapable web of reduced hydrophilicity, said agent consisting essentially of an
amino-modified polydimethylsiloxane;

said condrapable web being characterized by a strike-through of at least
10 seconds, and by a substantial improvement in condrapability, as measured by a
Handle-O-Meter decrease of at least 15% average for MD and CD relative to the initial
condrapability.

Add Claims 89 and 90 as follows:

-- 89. (New) A condrapable hydrophobic nonwoven web of continuous fibers,
made by the steps of:

(A) providing a hydrophobic nonwoven web of continuous fibers having
an initial condrapability;

(B) applying to the web a fiber surface-modifying agent dispersed in an
aqueous medium, the agent consisting essentially of an amino-modified
polydimethylsiloxane; and

(C) drying the web to remove the aqueous medium and leave a
condrapable hydrophobic web.

90. (New) A condrapable hydrophobic nonwoven web of continuous fibers, made by the steps of:
- (A) providing a hydrophobic nonwoven web of continuous fibers having an initial condrapability.
 - (B) applying to the web a fiber surface-modifying agent dispersed in an aqueous medium; and
 - (C) drying the web to remove the aqueous medium and leave a dried web characterized by a substantial hydrophobicity, as measured by a strike-through of at least 180 seconds, and by a substantial improvement in condrapability, as measured by a Handle-O-Meter decrease of at least 15% average for MD and CD relative to the initial condrapability. - -